

**2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Tata Open All India Badminton Tournament 2009 starts on July 1**

- **Tournament to be held from July 1-5, 2009 at state-of-art Air-conditioned badminton courts at Cricket Club Of India (CCI), Mumbai**
- **Participation from top ranked Indian players (Men & Women)**

**Mumbai, June 30, 2009:** The Tata group, in its long term endeavour to support sports, today announced the **second edition of Tata Open All India Badminton Tournament 2009**. The tournament has been organized by Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy (PPBA) under the auspices of Maharashtra Badminton Association (MBA) and will get underway at state-of-the-art, India's first air conditioned badminton courts at the Cricket Club of India (CCI), Mumbai from 1st to 5th July 2009. Yonex will be the official equipment supplier for the tournament.

**The qualifying rounds of the tournament will be held on July 1-2, 2009 and the main draw will commence from July 3, 2009. The finals will be played on July 5, 2009.**

The indicative lists of players participating in the Tata Open All India Badminton Tournament-2009 are: **(refer Annexure for seedings)**

- **Men Singles:** Chetan Anand, Arvind Bhat (Current National Champion), Anup Sridhar, P Kashyap, Anand Pawar & Ajay Jayaram
- **Women Singles:** Sayali Gokhale (Current National Champion), Aditi Mutatkar, Trupti Murgunde, Neha Pandit, Gayatri Vartak and so on
- **The top doubles** combination of Sanave Thomas & Rupesh Kumar and Mixed Doubles Doubles player Diyu V will also be seen in action.

**Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Amar Sinhji, Head- HR, Tata Capital Ltd said,** "We are happy to announce the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Tata Open in Mumbai. The Tata group firmly believes in the value of long-term development of sports in India. We believe, Badminton is a sport, which needs support and the Tata group takes pride in supporting sincere and genuine initiatives of the Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy in this direction. The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Tata Open marks yet another year of our continuous and long -standing association with Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy. We remain committed towards developing and enriching young talent in Badminton."

**Mr. Prakash Padukone, Director, Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy, said,** "We value the association with the Tata group, which is a key factor in developing and popularizing the sport. This will enable us to take forward a lot of exciting new initiatives, which the academy has been planning. The forthcoming second edition of Tata Open All India Badminton Tournament-2008 will witness the best of the Badminton talent in India battle it out for the coveted Tata Open trophy."

Last year, the Tata companies entered into a sponsorship agreement with the Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy (PPBA) since the group has identified Badminton as a potential sport which needs corporate encouragement & has a great future prospect to create world champions. The first edition of the event was organized in Bombay Gymkhana last year, which was a huge success and this has encouraged the Tata group to hold this event again in Mumbai at CCI.

The Tata group in association with PPBA launched the Tata Padukone Badminton Centre at Mumbai in May 2009, which is the third centre in the country after Bangalore and Pune. The centre aims at providing world-class training to improve skills and further harness the talent.

The new website on software [www.tournamentsoftware.com](http://www.tournamentsoftware.com), introduced by Badminton Association of India (BAI) for scheduling the draws will be applied to this event. For more information on this please log on BAI website [www.badmintonindia.org](http://www.badmintonindia.org)

The Tata group has a rich tradition of contributing towards sports such as tennis, archery, billiards, football, hockey and athletics among others in the past. The Tata group's association with sports goes back to more than three quarters of a century. The Tata Sports Club was formed, to encourage sports and sportspeople within and outside the group. The Club's endeavours have been directed at spotting and developing potential by providing an early platform for individuals to realize their ambitions in sports.

**About Tata group:**

Tata companies operate in seven business sectors: communications and information technology, engineering, materials, services, energy, consumer products and chemicals. They are, by and large, based in India and have significant international operations. The total revenue of Tata companies, taken together, was \$62.5 billion (around Rs. 251,543 crore) in 2007-08, with 61 per cent of this coming from business outside India, and they employ around 350,000 people worldwide. The Tata name has been respected in India for 140 years for its adherence to strong values and business ethics.

Every Tata company or enterprise operates independently. Each of these companies has its own board of directors and shareholders, to whom it is answerable. There are 27 publicly listed Tata enterprises and they have a combined market capitalization of some \$60 billion, and a shareholder base of 3.2 million. The major Tata companies are Tata Steel, Tata Motors, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Tata Power, Tata Chemicals, Tata Tea, Indian Hotels and Tata Communications.

**About Tata Capital Limited:**

Tata Capital Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tata Sons Limited, the apex company of the Tatas. Tata Capital is registered with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as a Systemically Important Non Banking Financial Company and aims to fulfill the diverse needs of retail and institutional customers, directly or through its subsidiaries, via seven broad areas of business, namely - Retail Finance, Corporate Finance, Investment Services, Investment Banking, Private Equity, Wealth Management and Rural Finance.

**About Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy:**

Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy was launched on October 1st, 1994. Located in Bangalore, the Academy is the brainchild of Mr. Prakash Padukone, Mr. Vimal Kumar and Mr. Vivek Kumar all stalwarts of Indian Badminton. Having won many International Badminton laurels for India, they knew well what was required to hone the future Indian Badminton Stars. They have created an Indian Badminton Academy, which imparts World-class Badminton coaching to trainees who are selected solely on merit and to whom training and facilities are provided on a scholarship basis. Encouraged by the success of the Bangalore Centre, PPBA established the Pune Centre during July 1999. The three centres at Bangalore, Pune & Mumbai together all christened as Tata Padukone Badminton Centre.

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## Annexure

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Tata Open All India Badminton Tournament 2009

#### SEEDINGS

##### MENS SINGLES

Sr. No.	Name
1	Chetan Anand (PET)
2	Aravind Bhat (PET)
3	Kashyap P (AP)
4	Anand Pawar (AI)
5	Anup Sridhar (PET)
6	Ajay Jayaram (MAH)
7	Guru Sai Dutt (AP)
8	Vidhyadhar J B S (PET)

##### WOMENS SINGLES

Sr. No.	Name
1	Aditi Mutatkar (PET)
2	Sayali Gokhale (AI)
3	Mudra Dahinje (AI)
4	Ashwini Ponnappa (KTK)
5	Neha Pandit (MAH)
6	Gayatri Vartak (MAH)
7	Anajali Khalita (ASM)
8	Parsa Naqvi (RLY)

##### MEN DOUBLES

Sr. No.	Name
1	Rupesh Kumar (PET) & Sanave Thomas (KER)
2	Arun Vishnu (KER) & Tarun K (AP)
3	Alwin Francis (KER) & Sanker Gopen (KER)
4	Anup Sridhar (PET) & Diju V (PET)

##### WOMEN DOUBLES

Sr. No.	Name
1	Aparna Balan (KER) & Shruti Kurien (PET)
2	Anjali Khalita (ASM) & Jyotshna P (AP)
3	Nitya Sosale (KTK) & Pradnya Gadre (MAH)
4	Jui Agaskar (MAH) & Rimi Hazarika (ASM)

##### MIXED DOUBLES

Sr. No.	Name
1	Diju V (PET) & Ashwini Ponnappa (KTK)
2	Arun Vishnu (KER) & Aparna Balan (KER)
3	Tanvir Gill (DLI) & Mohita Sahdev (DLI)
4	Vineeth Manuel (KTK) & Saumya Padhye (KTK)